

## Points for Mothers

**Length of Children's Skirts.**  
Mothers are often perplexed to know just how long to make their young children's and girl's skirts.

For the tot of one year the little skirt must be cut to the top of the tiny shoes. Any longer than this would interfere with progress when the little one learns to walk.

At eighteen months, when the sturdy tot is running about, let the hem come halfway between the shoe tops and the knee. When the third milestone has been passed let the skirt be shortened so as just to show the bend of the knee and keep this length until the little lady is six years old.

The average child between the ages of seven and twelve years should have her dresses cut long enough to cover the knee.

At thirteen add an inch or two to the length of the dress, and should she continue to develop drop the skirt length to a point halfway between the knee and ankle.

As she reaches fifteen years let the skirt be about two inches above her shoe tops. At sixteen a skirt that comes to the top of the shoe is correct.

When she is eighteen she is a young lady and should be allowed to choose the length of skirt she likes best, but if she is a wise girl she will cling to ankle length, or about four inches from the ground. These rules, of course, are subject to modification, according to the development of the girl. Some girls are much larger or smaller than others at a given age and should be dressed in keeping with their size.

Until a girl is past twenty-one she should not wear very long skirts. Even the debutante out for her second or third season can wear with propriety a dance frock that escapes the floor by three inches.

### Be Careful of Children's Feelings.

How often does a mother unconsciously wound the feelings of her child! How many requests the kindest of women refuse their boys or girls without realizing how disappointed the children may be! Why deny your baby needlessly? There are so many times when a mother must refuse a child's demands that it seems cruel to deny him at other times.

Cruelty is defined as "any act of a human being which inflicts unnecessary pain." Cruelty has an ugly ring, hasn't it? But there are hundreds of people who are honestly unaware of their own cruelties.

Do you mothers who deny your children little pleasures just because it may be inconsistent for you to grant them, at the time of asking—do you ever think of the "unnecessary pain" you are inflicting on the child? This morning, Mrs. Model Mother, did it occur to you that it was inflicting "unnecessary pain" on little Bobby when you refused to let him stand on a chair to see out of the window? Poor little chap! He wasn't tall enough to see without a boost. To be sure, you were writing letters or dusting or washing dishes, and you didn't have time to stop and grant his request. So you told him it would spoil the chair. Only one minute would have sufficed to pull up the chair, to put a newspaper on it for the tiny feet, and that minute's time would have saved the poor little baby heart one pang. Wouldn't it have been worth stopping for?

### Children's Scrap Books.

Scrap book collecting is a fun nursery diversion that has fewer adherents than it once had. Time was when the youngsters devoted much time and thought to gathering material with which to fill the books, and who would succeed in having the best collection was a matter of heated competition. It seems a pity that this form of collecting should have dropped into disfavor, for if rightly directed it may be the means of developing traits in the child that would otherwise lie dormant.

In the selection of clippings for a child's scrap book a large proportion of space should be allotted to verse.

The attention of the child will thus be directed to the many beautiful ideas that are clothed in musical measure.

Numbers of grown folks can say that many a noble sentiment has become fixed in their thoughts which would perhaps have escaped them had it not been presented in the beautiful garb of poetry and had not the making of scrap books been one of the delights of their childhood.

### Motherly Admonition.

A New York woman of great beauty called one day upon a friend, bringing with her her eleven-year-old daughter, who gives promise of becoming as great a beauty as her mother.

It chanced that the callers were shown into a room where the friend had been receiving a milliner, and there were several beautiful hats lying about. During the conversation the little girl amused herself by examining the milliner's creations. Of the number that she tried on she seemed particularly pleased with a large black affair which set off her light hair charmingly. Turning to her mother the little girl said:

"It looks just like you now, mother, don't it?"

"Sh!" cautioned the mother with up-lifted finger. "Don't be vain, dear."



## The Lehighway to Buffalo

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### A Great Blow.

A western financier was talking to a Washington reporter about a financial deal that had ended disastrously. "It was too bad," said the reporter. "Too bad?" said the financier, with a grim smile. "Oh, 'too bad' is not strong enough to fit the case. 'Too bad' is ludicrous. It suggests the farmer who when his wife and family were killed by a cyclone said it was 'a great blow' to him."—Exchange.

### No Emancipation.

"And so you are an ex-slave," said the traveler in the south. "How interesting! But when the war was ended you got your freedom." "No, sir," replied Uncle Rastus. "Ah didn't git no freedom. Ah was married."—New York Times.

### An Improvement.

Mrs. Winks—So you have taken another companion for better or worse, eh? Mrs. Second Trip—One for better, my dear. He can't possibly be worse than the other one was.

### Not Envious.

Mrs. Kicker—The Filligrees have a Corot in the dining room. Mr. Kicker—That's nothing. We have a whistler in the kitchen.—Satire.

### The Port of Workless Men.

One morning we passed through a square in Moscow containing nothing but men—wild eyed, long haired, long bearded men—men in rags, most of them, and all of them compelled to come there and wait to be hired to work. To that square must all workmen go who seek work. The city feeds them while they wait a single small piece of black bread each day. Some never leave that square, but wait there their lifetime through. They gazed upon our handsome landau with hungry and wolfish eyes. I never before beheld so frightful, unkempt a company of hopeless, hapless, hungry human slaves as these Russian workmen who waited for a job.—William Seymour Edwards in "Through Scandinavia to Moscow."

### Wrong, but True.

"Now, Johnny," said the teacher after she had explained the meaning of the word, "I wish you would write a sentence containing 'defeat'." After a struggle which lasted for about twenty minutes Johnny announced that he was ready to be heard. "Please read your composition," the teacher directed. "When you git shoes dat's too tite," Johnny read, "it's hard on de feet."—Chicago Record-Herald.

### The Welsh Language.

The quite erroneous idea that Welsh is a language of consonants probably arises from the number of w's it contains, according to a Welshman in the London News. "W" in Welsh is generally—and always between two consonants—a pure vowel, sounded like "oo" in English. Thus "cwm" is pronounced "loom," rhyming with "boom." What is really one of the most remarkable features about the Welsh language is the number of vowels which can come together. In English three vowels in succession are not often met with. In Welsh it is not uncommon to find four or five—e. g., in "llywlawdwr" (governor). Here each of the five vowels "ywlw" is pronounced separately in rapid succession. Here are four lines, consisting entirely of vowels, made by Goronwy Owen in the eighteenth century:

O'i wyl wy a weue,  
Ieiau o la, aie ly?  
A'i o u wauu a we  
A'i au i wau ei we wyl?

### Site of a Once Great Lake.

The United States geological survey has traced the early geological history of the region that includes the present Great Salt lake. In the pleistocene epoch western Utah contained a vast lake called by geologists Lake Bonneville. It was 246 miles long, 145 miles wide and over 1,000 feet deep. It covered an area of nearly 20,000 square miles—a tract twice as large as the land surface of the state of Maryland. The surface of the lake was about 5,200 feet above the present sea level, or about 1,000 feet above the level of Great Salt lake. If the lake existed at present Deseret would be covered by 600 feet of water, Nephi, Oak City, Holden, Fillmore and Kanosh would be at or near the shore, and Joy and Utah Mine would be situated on islands.

### Her Milking Stool.

"He—Then, if you are willing, we will be married at once, but we will not live in the close, crowded city. I will purchase a little farm, and we will live on it and be as happy as turtles." She—And I shall be a farmer's wife?

"Yes, my darling." "And what do you think, John? You won't have to buy a milking stool for me, for I've got one already."

"You have?" "Oh, yes, the prettiest you ever saw—decorated with handsome plush and cherry colored ribbons."

### A Bit Hot, but Loyal.

A girl went to India, and at the first New Year's away from home she wrote her devoted mother: "It is now very hot, and I perspire a great deal, but you will be pleased to hear that I am still a member of the Church of England."—Ladies' Home Journal.



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